GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1378
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
Quality of Higher Education
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of students are opting for higher education in various foreign countries each year;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality, research and innovation in educational institutions including premier Technological institutions in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): Study abroad is a matter of individual will and choice. Information regarding the number of Indian students going abroad is not maintained by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. There are no restrictions on cross-border student mobility which can be due to variety of reasons such as affordability, access to bank loans, exposure to foreign societies, aptitude for particular branch of studies and inability to gain admission to top Indian Institutes.
(c): Improvement in the quality, research and innovation in educational institutions is a continuous process. The Government has taken various measures in this regard.
The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced semester system, regular updating of curricula and Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCS). It has issued the UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010 for improving the standard of teaching in Indian universities. It has also issued the (Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 whereby all eligible higher educational institutions are required to get themselves accredited. The UGC has also issued the (Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations 2012, which provide a framework for academic collaboration between Indian and foreign higher educational institutions.
To encourage research and development in the country, UGC implements various schemes such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE), Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Centres with Potential for Excellence in a Particular Area (CPEPA) etc. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has launched the scheme of Faculty Recharge Programme wherein candidates are selected through global advertisements. Under the CV Raman Post-doctoral Fellowships Scheme the young faculty are attached to United States of America (USA) Universities to enable them to work with USA Scientists in their respective area of specialization.

The Government has also introduced Uchhatar Avishakar Yojana and Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) Programme with a view to promoting innovation that directly impact the needs of the industries and aims at providing solutions to the most relevant engineering challenges faced by the nation.
The All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has also introduced various schemes such as Research Promotion Scheme, Faculty Development Programme, Visiting Professorship, National Faculty in Engineering and Technology with Industrial Collaboration (NAFETIC), Innovation Programme Scheme and Quality Improvement Programme etc. It has also issued the Mandatory Accreditation of all Programs/Courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education Regulations, 2014 which makes it mandatory for each technical education institution, university department and institution Deemed to be University imparting technical education to get its programs/courses accredited. AICTE has also issued Regulations for Entry and Operation of Foreign Universities/Institutions imparting Technical Education in India to facilitate collaboration and partnerships between Indian and Foreign Universities/Institutions in the field of technical education, research and training.
The Government has also launched a programme titled the 'Global Initiative for Academic Networks' (GIAN) in higher education aimed at tapping the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs internationally to encourage their engagement with Indian higher educational institutions so as to augment the country's existing academic resources, accelerate the pace of quality reform, and elevate India's scientific and technological capacity to global excellence. GIAN includes participation of foreign faculty, including those of Indian origin, as faculty to participate in delivering short or semester-long courses.
Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), the overall quality of existing State higher educational institutions is sought to be improved by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adoption of accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework. Certain academic, administrative and governance reforms are a precondition for receiving funding under RUSA.
The Government has established new Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Management to enhance the quality of education in the field of Higher Education.